



2003 brings new missions to Brooks

South Chamber, Proxtronics open new Brooks offices

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

A milestone chapter in the evolution of Brooks City-Base began Monday when the South San Antonio Chamber of Commerce and Proxtronics Incorporated opened new offices here as part of an on-going initiative that fosters public-private partnerships.

The Brooks and San Antonio communities marked the grand opening with a special ceremony held at Hangar 9, followed by a ribbon cutting ceremony in Bldg. 625 where the South Chamber and Proxtronics share office space with two other new tenants: Frontline Systems, Inc. and Business Technology Solutions.

"We're thrilled to be here. Our planning days are over," said Cindy Taylor, South San Antonio Chamber of Commerce president. "This chamber is now implementing a brand new milestone in public-private partnerships."

Taylor credits Proxtronics, the building's major tenant, for providing the South Chamber an opportunity to relocate to Brooks from its previous McCreless Mall site, where it had been for 10 years.

"The chamber move signifies a



Photo by Senior Airman Brandy Bogart

Forging new partnerships

A symbolic ribbon cutting during the grand opening ceremony Jan. 13 for the South San Antonio Chamber of Commerce/Proxtronics offices at Brooks was representative of the partnerships forming between Brooks City-Base and the surrounding community. Ceremony participants included, from left to right, Lloyd Brink, president of Business Technology Solutions and Tony Cannon, of Frontline Systems, Inc., two other new tenants; South San Antonio Chamber of Commerce President Cindy Taylor; Proxtronics President Guy Davis; Brooks Development Authority boardmember Dick Grant; City Councilwoman Toni Moorehouse; U.S. Rep. Ciro Rodriguez; Bexar County Commissioner Tommy Adkisson; and 311th Human System Wing Commander Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd.

commitment to further efforts for economic growth in San Antonio and positions the chamber to support city plans for growth in the region," Taylor said.

"Since we first moved to Brooks last

April, we've doubled our revenue and have added 20 new jobs at Brooks," said Darrin Lawrence, Proxtronics vice president.

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City-Base teams Davis, Barkley as Brooks 2003 Fiesta ambassadors

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

Their names are already a household word regarding base history. Now, 2nd Lt. Brooke Davis and Capt. Britt Barkley plan to make a name, not for themselves, but for City-Base as 2003 Brooks Ambassadors.

As the first Fiesta royalty to represent Brooks in the City-Base era, the pair's yearlong goals reflect what Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd said during the ambassador announcement ceremony Dec. 20 at Hangar 9.

"The public perception is that Brooks is closing. The message to the community needs to be that, with City-Base, the missions and partnerships (here) are growing," the 311th Human Systems Wing commander said.

"My goal is to get out there (in the community) and present a positive light on the military and Brooks City-Base," said Davis, explaining that she is excited by the challenge during a period in American history when America's Armed Forces are centerstage in world affairs.

Possessing the same first name of the base she represents, and a last name that is associated with Davis Hyperbaric Laboratory research, this Air Force Research Laboratory officer has the perfect moniker to go along with the qualifications that helped cinch her selection as ambassador.

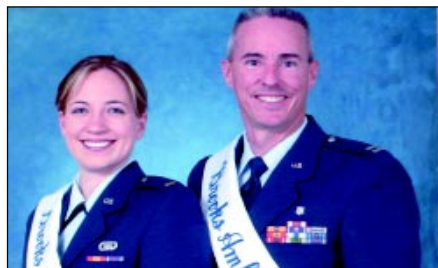
Davis began early in life having a positive impact on her community. Born in Dayton, Ohio, the 23-year-old grew up in Seattle, Washington, where she attended the all-women Holy Names Academy. As a student, she became an advocate for ministering to the homeless. She also served as the school's ambassador, promoting its programs to the community. President of the National Honor Society, Davis graduated in 1997 as class valedictorian. She resumed her volunteer work in homeless shelters while attending the University of Notre Dame where she earned a bachelor of science degree in mathematics in 2001 and an Air Force ROTC commission.

Davis arrived at Brooks in August 2001 to initially serve her first Air Force assignment as an AFRL biomechanisms branch mathematician. Her inaugural work involved mathematical research that supported the Tanks Under Trees project, a scientific study that investigated ways to process what enemies might conceal under tree cover.

Since then, she has become manager of the Active Denial System Bioeffects Cell for the Human Effectiveness Directorate Directed Energy Bioeffects Division's Radio Frequency Radiation Branch. Her bioeffects work involves the development of cutting-edge non-lethal weapon systems.

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America's first
woman in space

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Air Force Audit Agency directorate stands up at Brooks

By Staff Sgt. John Jung

311th Human Systems Wing Public Affairs

Much like a magnet draws metal to itself, Brooks City-Base is drawing new missions to the one-of-a-kind technology and business center.

Recently, the Air Force Audit Agency, headquartered in Washington, D.C., stood up the new Support and Personnel Audits Directorate at Brooks. Although the directorate's name seems to imply financial audits, the AFAA at Brooks has little to do with the financial side of the house.

The new directorate plans, executes and reports Air Force-wide audits addressing air, space, intelligence, engineering, environmental, personnel, training, health care and services operations. Under Maria Young, the directorate is located in the freshly remodeled second floor of Bldg. 125. According to Young, the AFAA office at Brooks has approximately 30 new people on board and expects to bloom to around 70 people within the next few months.

The Auditor General of the Air Force chose to locate in San Antonio and at Brooks because a number of

“ We work very closely with our clients to help them out because their goal is our goal— a better Air Force. ”

Maria Young

Assistant Auditor General,
Support and Personnel Audits

the new directorate's clients are located within the city, according to Young.

The AFAA office at Brooks has the Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence, the Air Force Personnel Center and the myriad of health care providers in the city as clients, so it made sense to locate near customers.

One of the new directorate's jobs is to evaluate programs and activities and assist management in achieving intended results.

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Don't discount the value of ethnic observances

Tech. Sgt. Denese Bellamy

437 Logistics Readiness Squadron

"Sorry, You e-mailed the wrong person." This is the response received from an airman through e-mail when the individual received an e-mail regarding upcoming events in recognition of Black History Month. When the airman was questioned on his response, the individual stated, "I'm not African American."

Unfortunately, this is the thinking of many individuals when it comes to ethnic observances. Many individuals feel that they must be a member of that particular ethnic group in order to participate in the ethnic observance events or become a member of the committee.

As military and civilian members it's imperative that we understand the importance of Ethnic Observances and the impact they have on our military mission. Ethnic Observances not only recognize the contributions made by various ethnic groups to our American society but also fosters better understanding and mutual respect through its education. Participation in ethnic observance events enhances human relations and promotes

an environment free of stereotypes, prejudices and discrimination.

Our military mission depends on an environment where individuals can get along regardless of their background. Today as our military becomes even more increasingly diverse, get better acquainted with someone whom you don't know much about culturally.

As a military where our forces are operating in various military operations to combat terrorism and preserve world peace we must continue to serve in unity.

Value and respect every individual regardless of his or her ethnicity (national origin), race, color, religion, or sex. In the time of war that person may be standing right beside you watching your back as you watch theirs.

So the next time an e-mail pops up on your screen informing you of an ethnic observance event do yourself a favor and take the opportunity to arm yourself with knowledge.

In closing, I leave you with this quote by Theodore Roosevelt, "The most important single ingredient in the formula of success is knowing how to get along with people."

It's official— Brooks' name changes to City-Base

December 10 the installation name change for Brooks was approved by Headquarters Air Force. Effective immediately, Brooks Air Force Base is officially Brooks City-Base, Texas.

Although the Air Force remains the largest tenant at Brooks, the tech-

nology and business park is owned by the Brooks Development Authority.

All official correspondence, including decorations, performance review feedback, officer performance reports and enlisted performance reports should reflect that.

Brooks City-Base is now used by all agencies, including the U.S. Postal Service, U.S. Air Force and other government agencies.

The **Discovery** is online.

Go to <http://www.brooks.af.mil/HSW/PA/discovery>.



Air Force, Navy partnership expands DoD's disaster-related training efforts

By 2nd Lt. Leslie Brown
311th Human Systems Wing Public Affairs

The Air Force Medical Service Institute for Global Health recently changed its name to reflect its expanding mission. The new Defense Institute for Medical Operations, one of many new tenants at Brooks City-Base, began a partnership with the Navy to become the Defense Department's focal point for medical and disaster-related courses.

DIMO's joint effort brings the Air Force's Global Health Institute and the Navy's Health Care Management together under one organization. The cooperative effort between the Air Force and Navy will provide the proper elements for the development, maintenance and implementation of medical operations training. It will also allow them to increase the number of classes and diversity of the courses offered. The organization's ultimate goal is to provide training to subject matter experts or, "train the trainers," to ensure host nations' and our nation's abilities to manage their own threats or crises and to respond as coalition partners in regional crises. These subject matter experts would then train the appropriate people necessary.

DIMO provides oversight for the development and implementation of courses that meet national and regional commanders' objectives, and the events of Sept. 11, 2001, emphasized the need for an overall strategy for disaster preparedness at home and abroad.

The training implemented by the Institute provides an excellent opportunity to augment this strategy through multilateral engagement—building international medical bridges through collective approaches to public health, disease prevention and response to man-made and natural disasters. DIMO provides leadership for security at home and humanitarian and disaster response training and sustainment worldwide. This strategy helps ensure our own population, as well as others, can handle a major event while at the same time decreasing the U.S. footprint overseas.

More than 1,700 healthcare providers in 32 countries have received training from DIMO and the former Institute for Global Health since its inception in 1999. Numerous countries have partnered with their civilian counterparts and trained together, often for the first time, in order to respond to disasters in a more efficient way. Leading academic centers in these countries have incorporated DIMO's training modules into their curriculum. Disaster response teams have been developed using our concepts and innovations. Countries have utilized these teams, training, and concepts by conducting mock disaster exercises with regional participation. These exercises have received wide support and cooperation among countries.

Although DIMO's workforce at Brooks is still relatively small, the organization expects to increase dramatically with the Navy's scheduled arrival in June.

Partnerships

Continued from Page 1

The company, which specializes in environmental engineering, management systems and dosimetry services, was among the base's earliest small business tenants. Proxtronics was initially located in Bldg. 167. Its new home, located across the street from historic Hangar 9, features 7,000 square feet.

The facility at 8010 Challenger Drive also houses the new Homeland Security Division of Frontline Systems, Inc., an information technology company founded in 1992 by Bob Sanchez and Tony Cannon; and the year-old Business Technology Solutions that, president Lloyd Brink said, will initially operate a computer recycling center.

"Today, we bring together some of the organizations that, in my mind, define the success of Brooks City-Base. We're seeing the coming together of partnerships to enhance military missions. Our country is stronger today because of this," said Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd, 311th Human Systems Wing commander.

The three small businesses and the South Chamber relocated to Brooks because of the numerous opportunities here that are conducive to fostering partnerships and collaborations with other companies, academia, the Air Force and the Department of Defense.

Lawrence said Proxtronics came to Brooks because of the Air Force and city of San Antonio's teamwork and commitment to forging small business success. Lawrence and company president Guy Davis praised the Brooks Development Authority for their tireless contribu-

“ We're thrilled to be here. Our planning days are over. This chamber is now implementing a brand new milestone in public-private partnerships. ”

Cindy Taylor
South San Antonio Chamber of Commerce president

tions in helping facilitate Brooks City Base's technology and economic growth.

Bexar County Judge Nelson Wolff, District 3 City Councilwoman Toni Moorhouse, Mayor Ed Garza and U.S. Rep. Ciro Rodriguez were among community leaders who participated in the ceremony.

Garza characterized the grand opening as part of a shift in the momentum of economic development to the Southside, part of San Antonio's plan for balanced municipal growth.

Dr. Brendan Godfrey, 311th Human Systems Wing deputy director, characterized the ceremony as a 'vanguard event,' the beginning of many groups of companies relocating or being established at Brooks. He said within the next several weeks new Brooks tenants will include the Office of councilwoman Toni Moorhouse and the Air Force Audit Agency, the latter moving into Bldg. 125.



Celebrating Martin Luther King Day

By Rita Boland

Staff writer

Each year Americans enjoy a three-day weekend during the third week of January. The holiday celebrates the life of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., a civil rights leader who believed in the power of peace. King's birthday is a federally recognized holiday and military special observance because of his fight for civil rights for all Americans.

King is the only American, other than George Washington, whose birthday is celebrated as a national holiday. King's message of understanding and acceptance encompasses all humanity, spanning race, gender, ethnicity and all human differences. Despite the prejudice and violence he faced as an African-American, King lived the message that change should come about through peaceful means.

"Civilization and violence are antithetical concepts," King said in his Nobel Peace Prize acceptance speech in 1964.

King's ministry and sacrifice differs from many other leaders because he believed in and preached equal treatment for all people, not only a particular demographic.

"When we let freedom ring, when we let it ring from every tenement and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old spiritual, 'Free at last, free at last. Thank God Almighty, we are free at last,'" King said in his famous "I Have a Dream Speech," delivered during the March on Washington in 1963.

Rep. John Conyers of Michigan began lobbying for King's birthday to be a holiday four days after King's assassi-



Courtesy photo

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was a student of Mahatma Gandhi and adopted the same non-violent methods of civil protest for his American civil rights movement.

nation on April 4, 1968. In 1970, California became the first state to declare a school holiday on King's birthday.

President Ronald Reagan signed a measure passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate to make King's birthday a national holiday in 1983. The United States first observed King's birthday as a legal nationwide holiday Jan. 20, 1986.

King was born Jan. 15, 1929, in Atlanta.

In honor of King's birthday, the Brooks Chapel and the African American Cultural Association sponsored the Martin Luther King, Jr. Observance Ceremony at the Chapel. Chaplain (Maj.) Oledia Bell of Chaplain Accessions, Headquarters Recruiting Service at Randolph Air Force Base, was the guest speaker.

King was a true patriot and champion for justice. He sparked a cultural revolution in America that lives on in the commitment to equality for all people. He is remembered for his dream and honored by the continued efforts to keep that dream alive.

American Red Cross needs volunteers

Military community members can help support families coping with war

SAN ANTONIO— The American Red Cross is seeking volunteers to assist with the mounting needs of the local military community as it braces for possible war.

Volunteers of all ages and backgrounds are welcome, but individuals with regular weekday, evening or weekend availability are particularly needed.

The local Red Cross chapter and its military installation offices have already intensified their support to local military families with increased emergency communications, assistance to hundreds of deploying service members and their families, and briefings for thousands of local reservists who have been called to active duty since the first of the year.

In the event that war is declared, the Red Cross will extend its hours of operation and staff additional offices on area military installations, all of which will require the help of dedicated volunteers.

Volunteers will be trained to take incoming calls, complete emergency communication casework, assist with briefings and provide for a host of needs and requests from service members and their families.

Retirees, spouses, groups and young people are encouraged to find out more about how they can help military families in this time of uncertainty.

For more information or to sign up as a volunteer call the local Red Cross office at 210-224-5151 extension 248.

AFSA awards scholarships to Brooks dependents

By Rita Boland

Staff writer

The Brooks chapter of the Air Force Sergeants Association recently awarded two Brooks' family members with \$500 college scholarships.

AFSA awarded checks to Grace Pascual and Alyssa Mae Olvera. The two girls were selected from a pool of 18 applicants.

Pascual and Olvera attend San Antonio College and Texas A&M University, respectively.

"The reason AFSA 'Hangar 9' Chapter 1077 sponsors this program is to give back to the Brooks family by donating two scholarships annually to dependents for college tuition," said chapter President, Tech. Sgt. Chris McClaren.

"It is our most gratifying community service project. It is a wonderful feeling to help someone achieve their education goals and see them become aspiring and productive members of our society."

McClaren works at the Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis.

Applicants for the scholarships were assessed for leadership, community involvement and education/school activities. Tech. Sgt. John Berry made the final decision on the awards.

According to McClaren, the scholarships have been a tradition for at least 12 years.

Usually recipients receive the scholarships during a ceremony, but this year McClaren mailed the checks to the students.



767 mockup officially 'launched' at Brooks

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

When the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine begins training the first class of flight nurses and aeromedical evacuation technicians next week in its newest simulator, chances are these students will be better prepared to treat casualties than their predecessors.

As a prelude to providing future students realistic training in a mockup 767 commercial airliner, the Civil Reserve Air Fleet Aeromedical Evacuation Shipset Simulator was transferred from Air Mobility Command to USAFSAM in a ceremony Monday.

"Getting a half-million dollar simulator is quite a bargain. The reality of the past, we had to spend (between) \$3-5 million to rent a 767 for three to five days. We couldn't train enough people to make it useful (cost effective)," said Brig. Gen. Charles Green, AMC command surgeon, who participated in the official ribbon cutting ceremony that symbolized the transfer. Other ceremony participants included Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd, 311th Human Systems Wing commander; Col. Tom Travis, USAFSAM commander; and Col. Al Burnett, 311th Human Systems Program Office director.

"This is an important time in Air Force operational medicine. We (planners) try to determine future capabilities that will be important to warfighters. To remain relevant we have to evolve, grow and make progress. We've moved from a Cold War era mentality to an Air Expeditionary era mentality. We've developed a different way to move patients," said Dodd.

The new way to which Dodd refers is future reliance by America's military medical community on re-configured commercial airliners for transporting mass casualties. Called the Civil Reserve Air Fleet, the U.S. President and the Secretary of Defense can activate this backup aeromedical

evacuation system to support a national disaster or major war. U.S. Airways and Delta Airlines are the current contract CRAF carriers.

In the past, CRAF training and orientation flights have been rare. USAFSAM personnel participated in a cross-country CRAF training flight a year ago that tested both Air Force and U.S. Airways crew coordination as well as the 311th SPO's newly developed Patient Loading System.

The CRAF-AESS simulator, externally located behind Bldg. 820, is a 50-foot section of a Boeing 767 fuselage. Its Federal Aviation Administration-approved specifications are currently configured with 25 litters and support equipment, which feature state-of-the-art medical support devices such as ventilators.

This simulator will provide aeromedical evacuation personnel and Critical Care Air Transport Teams a platform for wartime readiness or contingency operations training. According to USAFSAM trainers, this simulator will be used to familiarize students with the Boeing 767 cabin layout, interface with aeromedical evacuation subsystems, enplaning and deplaning procedures and basic CRAF operations.

"We average between 25-40 students per class, and six classes per year," said Staff Sgt. Eric McQuiston, a USAFSAM medic. Besides Air Force personnel, USAFSAM simulator training is also provided to Navy and Army medical evacuation personnel, McQuiston said.

The 767 simulator is the fourth member of the USAFSAM simulator fleet, which also includes the C-141, C-9 and C-130.

"We designed and built it at Randolph," said Kevin Haley, the 12th Flying Training Wing's Logistics Group director of Trainer Development. He said his 48-member team began developing the simulator eight years ago. Work on it began in earnest six years ago. Last March, it took Haley's team four weeks to assemble the simulator at Brooks. The team is developing another 767 for Sheppard Air Force Base in Abilene, Texas.

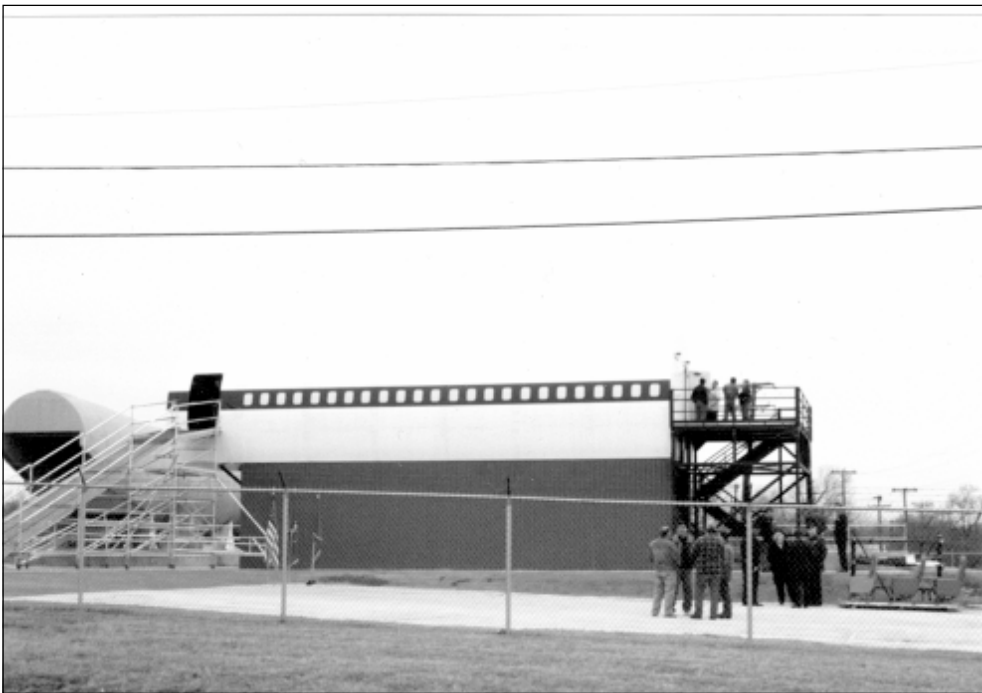


Photo by Rudy Purificato

The U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine's newest simulator, a 767 mockup, is situated behind Bldg. 820. The 767 is the latest in USAFSAM's simulator fleet, which includes the C-141, C-9 and C-130.

Audit

Continued from Page 1

After collecting the information and analyzing it, the AFAA comes back with a "blue book" which answers whether or not the program is working the way it is supposed to and offers some recommendations for improvement.

"There is always room for improvement," said Young, "After all we are human."

The Audit Agency used to be feared but that is a thing of the past according to Young. "It used to be that way [being feared] in the past when we just went and did audits that we [AFAA] thought should be done."

That changed about eight years ago when retired Gen. Lloyd Newton was Air Force Vice Chief of Staff and challenged them by asking, "Why don't you work with me? Sometimes you come and audit me and what you are auditing is not important to me. Why don't you meet with me and find out what I am concerned about and what my problem areas are?" said Young.

The AFAA's answer-but of course, that is exactly what should be done. And that is the approach the AFAA has taken. According to Young, more than 60 percent of their audits are now at the request of clients.

"We have an outstanding relationship with our clients. We work very closely with our clients to help them out because their goal is our goal—a better Air Force. With their new direction the AFAA has made the old image of being the guys in the black hats a thing of the past and is ready to expand to further accomplish its missions.

As a part of the AFAA expansion to Brooks, the organization is adding additional auditor positions for Brooks, as well as the Randolph Air Force Base Area Audit Office.

Employment information is available on the AFAA Home Page at: www.afaa.hq.mil under the employment link.



Partnerships

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She learned firsthand how important the military is to the Fiesta celebration when she served as the Dodds' Fiesta driver last year. She said of the experience, "I loved the environment, and knew immediately that being an ambassador was something that I wanted to do the following year. I have a deep sense of pride in serving my country, and my passion for the Air Force is often difficult to contain. To be a representative of our base, and to share with the community my great pride, is a true honor."

For Barkley, being selected ambassador was a long-term goal. "In 1998, I applied for Lackland AFB ambassador. I was selected as the 59th Medical Wing representative from Wilford Hall, but lost at the base level," recalls this U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine officer whose last name is eerily similar to USAFSAM's altitude research laboratory.

Born in Augusta, Ga., just before Christmas in 1961, Barkley made a name for himself as high school president of his junior and senior class as well as the local chapter of the National Honor Society. After attending the University of South Carolina - Aiken for two years, he enlisted in the Air Force in 1982 as a medic. He spent the next 18 years in the enlisted medical career field, earning acclaim for his emergency room work. Barkley also earned a bachelor of science degree with highest honors in social psychology from Missouri's Park University and later a master's degree with honors in management and human resources develop-



Courtesy photo

2nd Lt. Brooke Davis and Capt. Britt Barkley will represent Brooks as the 2003 Fiesta ambassadors.

opment from Webster University.

Barkley recalls a major career change, explaining, "In 1999 the Air Force missed its recruiting goal for the first time in years. The commissioning age had been capped at 35. At the time, I was 37. They raised the commissioning age to 40." He was subsequently commissioned in the Medical Service Corps and currently serves at Brooks as the Expeditionary Medical Support assistant course director.

He considers serving as Brooks ambassador a continuation of his work in supporting the San Antonio community. He is an active participant in the city-wide Shattered Dreams Program aimed at reducing high school student drunk driving incidents, and San Antonio's National Disaster Medical System Exercise.

Officer Promotions

The following Brooks officers were recently selected for promotion to the next highest grade.

To Lieutenant Junior Grade:

Terri Minch
Naval Health Research Center

To Major:
Colby Adams

Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis

Steven Bodily

Air Force Medical Support Agency

Mark Clinger

311th Medical Squadron

Eric Cox

U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine

Agustin Farias

311th MDS

Andrea Gooden

USAFSAM

Levette Hamblin

AFIERA

Jason Hayes

311th MDS

Marvin Hsie

Air Force Medical Operations Agency

William Hurtle

Air Force Research Laboratory

Robert Jones

311th Human Systems Program Office

Abdollah Moghaddam

AFIERA

Christina Runyan

AFMSA

Richard Shea

USAFSAM

Jeremy Slagley

USAFSAM

To Lieutenant Colonel:

Richard Baker

USAFSAM

James Boyd

USAFSAM

To Colonel:

Carl Simpson

AFRL

Kenneth Cox

AFIERA

Grover Yamane

AFMSA

Lawrence Steinkraus Jr.

USAFSAM

James Stewart

USAFSAM

Joel Knutson

USAFSAM

Howard Roberts

USAFSAM



ACTION LINE

536-2222



Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd
311th Human Systems
Wing commander

The **COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE** is your opportunity to make Brooks a better place to live, work and play.

If you have a suggestion for improvement, a complaint or a problem that you have not been able to resolve through normal complaint channels or the chain of command, call the **COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE, 536-2222.**

Only items of general interest will be published, so please leave your name and number for a personal response.

The base agencies listed below can be contacted directly:

311th Security Forces Squadron.....	536-2851
SFS after duty hours.....	536-2851
311th Civil Engineer Squadron.....	536-3861
311th Communications Squadron.....	536-6571
311th Mission Support Group Logistics Division.....	536-3541
Safety.....	536-2111
Housing Maintenance.....	533-4100
Housing Office.....	536-1840
311th Services Division.....	536-2545
311th Medical Squadron (Clinic).....	536-4715
Military Personnel.....	536-1845
Civilian Personnel.....	536-3353
Military Pay.....	536-5778
Civilian Pay.....	536-8370
I.G. (FWA).....	536-2358
Military Equal Opportunity.....	536-2584
EEO Complaints.....	536-3702
BX Market.....	533-9079
Brooks Development Office.....	536-3372
Brooks City-Base Marketing and Development Office.....	536-5366



Brooks Family Support Center activities

Call 536-2444 for information

Common sense parenting

11 a.m.-1 p.m., Tuesdays, Bldg. 618 —

This six-week class is hosted by the Life Skills Support Center, Family Advocacy Program and the Family Support Center. The program began Jan. 7 and runs through Feb. 25. It's designed to teach parent skills to encourage positive behavior, discourage negative behavior and teach alternatives to problem behavior. Topics include setting clear expectations, positive and negative consequences, teaching self-control, effective praise, preventive and corrective teaching, helping children make decisions and more. Call 536-5301 to sign up.

Resume Clinic

9 a.m.-3 p.m., Jan. 29, Bldg. 537 —

This class is the second in a two-part series, which covers resume writing, inter-

viewing skills and salary negotiations. Part II includes resume writing, job search techniques, mock interviews and dressing for success.

Marriage enrichment

9 a.m.-11 a.m., Jan. 20,27, Bldg. 537 —

Just married, been married forever or need some encouragement, instruction, or just some time to spend with your spouse learning about one another? Then maybe our marriage enrichment seminar is what you need. We are aiming to help couples grow fantastic marriages. Seminar topics include children, communication, in-laws, dating again, barriers, and essentials and provides an open and lighthearted atmosphere.

Moving with kids

11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Jan. 22, Bldg. 537 —

Make your move a good one for all of you. Children of different age groups react differently to a move. Learn what to tell your children and how to get them involved in the move.

Education grants

The 2003-2004 Air Force Aid Society General Henry H. Arnold Education Grant Program awards \$1,500 grants to spouses of active duty members stationed stateside and widows of deceased members; retired reservists; Title 10 Guard/Reservists on extended active duty, dependent sons and daughters of active duty, retired, or deceased members and Title 32 Air National Guard performing full-time active duty. Use of funds is limited to tuition, book and fees and other direct educational expenses. Application deadline is March 14.



How to avoid debt and make money

By Rita Boland

Staff writer

(Editors note: This article is the first in a series of educational pieces on the benefits offered to individuals who choose to join the military.)

Debt. Loans. Interest.

The result of foolish credit use? Uncontrolled spending?

Maybe. However many college graduates face these problems as they begin their professional lives while paying off college loans. According to a study by the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education, the average college senior at a four-year public university owes \$13,000.

The military provides its personnel many ways to avoid college debt and taking advantage of benefits allows military members to attend school at minimal cost.

The most common and well-known educational military perk is the Montgomery GI Bill. Active duty personnel who joined the military after 1985 contributed \$100 a month for 12 months to participate in the program. An honorably discharged veteran then receives payments for 36 months to attend a two-year, four-year or vocational program. Other training programs and refresher courses may also be covered.

As of Oct. 1, 2002, students pursuing institutional education full-time receive \$900 a month. Other training and part-time study are covered at different rates. These payments apply to those who served a contract of more than two years or served two years active duty and four years in the Selected Reserves.

Service members also have an option to increase their benefits by \$5,400 by contributing a maximum of \$600 to their GI Bill fund while still serving.

Other recently enacted benefits include 100 percent tuition payment, up to \$250 a semester hour and \$4,500 a year, for currently serving active members. This program allows military personnel to attend school tuition-free while serving without using money from their GI Bill. Students are still required to purchase textbooks and pay certain other fees.

In addition to helping pay for college, the military will assist former students in paying off student loans.

Military members can also take college placement tests and college entrance exams free of charge. Tests which award college credit, like CLEP and DANTES, are free at various locations, including many base education centers. The tests count for varying numbers of college credits if a student acquires a passing grade, saving mili-

tary members hundreds of dollars.

Yet another benefit offered to military members is the opportunity to speak with a college representative in a convenient location — on base. Most bases host representatives from several colleges and universities, allowing base personnel to find a school and program that suits their needs. This service, again, is free of charge.

"We keep the scholarship reps appointment book," said Carolyn Croft-Foster, the guidance counselor at the Brooks Education Services Office. "Call one number and you can get education counseling on the whole or on the school."

Many scholarships exist through the DoD and individual branches of the service. The scholarships aid active duty, reservists or dependents of military members, depending on the requirements.

The Reserved Officer Training Corps provides scholarships and stipends to students at universities around the country. Students who complete ROTC are commissioned as a 2nd Lt. upon graduation and must serve out a contract with a specified military branch.

The Air Force offers other education opportunities specifically for its members. Airmen can enroll in the Community College of the Air Force, a free institution that has full accreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and earn an Associate in Applied Science Degree.

Military courses, on-the-job-training and CDCs all can count as credit toward a CCAF degree.

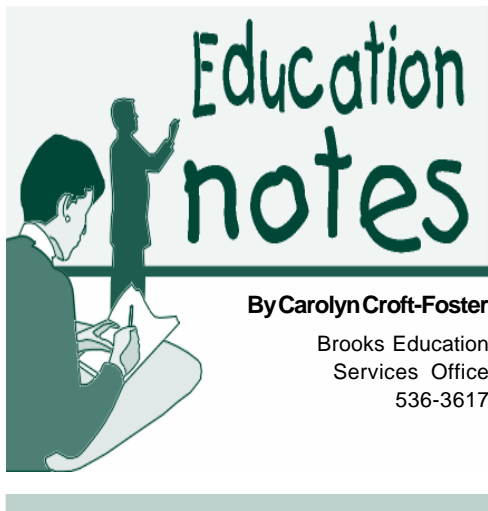
"(CDCs) earn eight semester hours of college credit," Foster said. "If they fail or don't complete their CDCs they will most likely be asked to leave the Air Force."

Airmen must have their supervisor's approval to take college courses, but, according to the Brooks Education Services Office, once CDCs have been completed most supervisors approve request to take college courses.

Despite the education benefits available to those in the service, some military members don't take advantage of the perks.

"I don't think (military) take advantage of their benefits because they don't know what their benefits are sometimes," said Master Sgt. Dan Constantin of the Education Services Office.

Interested parties can receive more information about education benefits through their base education office, the base military personnel flight or through a Veteran's Affairs representative. GI Bill queries should be addressed to a VA rep.



By Carolyn Croft-Foster

Brooks Education
Services Office
536-3617

Tucker selected for direct commission

Tech. Sgt. Bill Tucker at the Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis was recently selected for direct commission in the Aerospace Physiology Career Field. Upon completion of his baccalaureate degree, Tucker will be commissioned as a second lieutenant and then attend Officer Training at Maxwell, Air Force Base, Ala.

ACCD Spring registration

The Alamo Community College District Spring 2003 registration is underway. On-base classes include Speech, Art Appreciation, Computer Literacy, Freshman English, Algebra, U.S. History I, Music Appreciation, and Philosophy. Tuition Assistance covers the full cost of tuition for Alamo Community College District classes. Students need to request tuition assistance 48 hours prior to registration. The ACCD representative visits Brooks each Tuesday. To schedule an appointment, call 536-3617.

School representatives schedule

Representatives from the colleges and universities that visit Brooks have returned from the holidays. Students who need to see a school representative before the holidays can call schedule an appointment. Current school representatives schedules are: Mondays, UTSA and Southwest Texas; Tuesdays, Alamo Community College District; Wednesdays, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and Webster University; Thursdays, Our Lady of the Lake and St. Mary's Universities; Fridays, National Graduate School.

Palo Alto logistics management certification

The Logistics Management Program from Palo Alto College is designed to prepare students for management careers in transportation warehousing, distribution, inventory control, purchasing, and international logistics. Students study logistics principles and practices involved in procurement, transportation, storage, and third party provision as they apply to solving management problems in movement, storage, control and information flow. This program graduates students with the managerial skills and competencies required for jobs in these areas and is certified by the American Society of Transportation and Logistics. On-Base Classes include: Intro to Logistics Management, Domestic and International Transportation Management and Special Topics in Logistics Management. For more information call 536-3617 to schedule an appointment with the Palo Alto representative.

OTS/ROTC application changes

All non-technical boards are suspended until Oct. 2003. Officer training school will continue to accept applications for pilot, navigator, and technical career fields. All non-technical selects' class assignments are on hold until Aug. 2003. Technical degrees include: Architecture, Chemistry, Computer Science, Computer Engineering Technology, Electrical Engineering Technology, and Electronic Engineering Technology. Technology degrees are not eligible for the engineering AFSC, but are targeted for 33S1. The following degrees qualify to meet a critical technical program: Atmosphere Science, Engineering Degrees, Math, Physics, Meteorology, or Weather Technicians with a non-technical bachelor's degree and a Weather Technology Community College of the Air Force Degree, or a non-technical bachelor degree with a minimum of a 5 skill level with Forecaster training and experience. All potential applicants who previously met with the Air Force guidance counselor need to schedule a follow-up appointment as soon as possible to explore how these changes will affect their packages. OTS is still accepting applications for Air Battle Managers and Space and Missile Systems. To schedule an appointment, call 536-3617.

CCAF Spring graduation deadline

The deadline for Community College of the Air Force Spring 2003 graduation is Feb. 21. Nominations must be received by CCAF at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., by that date. Students who have recently completed their last class and believe they are a degree candidate need to contact Education Services to ensure their nominations have been submitted.

Six CLEP exams retire

The College board is retiring six CLEP paper-based exams by June 30, 2003. General Biology, General Chemistry, College Level German Language, Western Civilization I and Western Civilization II will only be available as computer based tests after that date. Students should verify their degree plans to see if these exams are needed and plan accordingly.

CCAF deadline

The deadline for Community College of the Air Force Spring 2003 graduation is Feb. 21. Nominations must be received by CCAF at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., by that date. Students who have just completed their last class and believe they are a degree candidate should contact Education Services to ensure their nominations have been submitted.

Active-duty members can increase GI Bill

Active-duty military members, currently enrolled in the Montgomery GI Bill, have the opportunity to increase Chapter 30 GI Bill benefits by \$5400 for a maximum contribution of \$600.

This benefit is only open to personnel who first entered active duty on or after July 1, 1985, and elected to participate in the Montgomery GI Bill. This MGIB feature is not open to Vietnam-Era or VEAP Convertees.

Call 536-3617 for details.



Mass schedule change

The midweek mass at the Brooks Chapel, formerly held Wednesdays, is held Thursdays at 11:30 a.m. Friar Maury Smith, a local Roman Catholic priest and a Franciscan friar, serves the Brooks Chapel Our Lady of Peace Catholic Parish. Friar Smith celebrates Sunday mass weekly and either he or Deacon Gene Sekinger lead the other weekday services, also at 11:30 a.m.

Mass is held each First Friday of the month and on holy days of obligation. Mass is open for the entire base Roman Catholic community.

Chapel schedule

Weekdays:

11:30 a.m. — Mass or Eucharistic service

Wednesdays:

12 p.m. — Lifebuilders luncheon

6 p.m. — Catholic choir rehearsal

Thursdays:

7:30 p.m. Protestant choir rehearsal

Sundays:

9 a.m. — Catholic Mass

10:30 a.m. — Catholic religious education

9 a.m. — Protestant Sunday School, ages 3-adult

10:30 a.m. — Protestant Worship, includes children's church

National Prayer Breakfast

The National Prayer Breakfast is scheduled for 7:30 a.m. Jan. 29 at the Brooks Club. Retired Navy Chaplain, (Capt.) Arnie Resnicoff is the guest speaker. Check his website at: www.resnicoff.net for more information about the quality of the speaker. He is recognized as one of the most widely used military chaplains for highly visible events in recent history. Everyone is encouraged to attend, but tickets are limited. Tickets are \$7 and are available through unit representatives.

Contact Chaplain Gary Coburn or Staff Sgt. Steven Alderman at the Brooks Chapel for more information. The event is locally sponsored by 311th Human Systems Wing Commander Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd.



Native Americans stage Brooks ‘pow wow’

By Rudy Purificato
311th Human Systems Wing

Native Americans from three tribes shared part of their culture with the Brooks community in December as part of a belated tribute to National American Indian Heritage Month. Historically referred to as a “pow wow”, or social gathering, the San Antonio American Indian Resource Center conducted the special cultural program in Bldg. 180’s auditorium. “It was Brig. Gen. (Lloyd) Dodd’s idea to form a Special Observance Committee that ensures that all heritages are observed on base,” said Staff Sgt. Blanca Rainey, 311th Human Systems Wing committee representative. While the nation honored Native Americans in November, Brooks had to wait until December to commemorate native peoples’ heritage due to the pow wow group’s schedule. Nevertheless, the Special Observance Committee coordinated with the Brooks Child Development Center in November to honor Native Americans. “We had them hold a coloring contest. The children made ‘dreamwatchers.’ We presented prizes to the winners at the pow wow,” Rainey said. The pow wow featured Native American author Dr. Jonathan Hook, a member of the Cherokee Nation, who presented a historical overview of native people. Emma Ortega, a Lipan Apache, conducted the pow wow’s opening prayer and was the event’s storyteller, conveying vignettes from native peoples’ oral traditions. Stephanie and Chris Barajas, members of the Huastec-



Photo by Staff Sgt. Alfonso Ramirez Jr.
Chris and Stephanie Barajas, members of the Huastec-Zapotec tribe, conducted a traditional dance exhibit during Brooks National American Indian Heritage Month celebration recently. Zapotec tribe, conducted a traditional dance exhibition. They explained the dance’s significance and described the symbolism of their native costumes. Among Brooks leaders who were invited to participate in the dance were Col. Stuart Cowles, 311th HSW vice commander; Col. Albert Bowley, 311th Mission Support Group commander; and 1st Lt. Tim Schofield, Dodd’s executive officer. The dance invitation is considered a great honor among Native Americans. At the annual meeting of North American tribes during the “gathering of the clans” in Albuquerque, N.M., anyone attending the event who has ever served as a member of a country’s Armed Forces is invited to dance as a tribute to warriors. Hook honored Dodd by presenting him with a poster of the space shuttle mission that featured the first Native American in space.

Need for blood donations grows

By Master Sgt. Michael Briggs
Air Education and Training Command Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) — With a smaller pool of eligible military donors and a recently decreased stock of frozen blood, the Air Force assistant vice chief of staff is calling on servicemembers and their families to donate blood. In a recent memo to the field, Lt. Gen. Joseph Wehrle asked airmen worldwide to support the January observance of National Volunteer Blood Donor Month by rolling up their sleeves and giving the gift of life. “Blood safety and availability are inseparable requirements for ensuring optimal care of our active-duty troops, retirees, military spouses and children,” he said. “Unfortunately, current federal regulations barring donations from (people) who have served time in Europe have resulted in a 25-percent drop in eligible donors on Air Force bases.” Besides fewer donors, the frozen blood supply took a hit recently when the Armed Services Blood Program Office asked the military to withdraw frozen blood supplies donated during last summer’s West Nile virus epidemic to avoid transmitting the potentially fatal disease to recipients. Those factors, combined with a historical trend of fewer blood donations in the winter months, would make the need for blood more urgent in any year. That need is even more urgent today, taking into consideration current world events including a possible war with Iraq. “At this time, with American forces actively fighting the war on terrorism and with hundreds of thousands of

military (people) deployed in support of expeditionary operations throughout the world, I want to personally encourage everyone who can give blood, to do so,” Wehrle said. Leaders of the nation’s blood banking community are seeking a nationwide donation of 1.2 million units of blood during January. Military and civilian blood collection officials said donors with Type AB blood are especially needed, because AB is the universal blood plasma type. “To avert critical blood shortages this winter, we need citizens across the country to schedule an appointment to donate blood,” said Jim MacPherson, chief executive officer of America’s Blood Centers. “Blood has a shelf life of only 42 days, which means it constantly needs to be replenished. Donors can give blood every 56 days, or six times a year.” Fewer than 5 percent of healthy Americans eligible to donate blood actually donate each year, according to information from the American Association of Blood Banks. To be eligible to donate blood, a person must be in good health and usually must be at least 17 years old. Minimum weight requirements may vary among facilities, but generally, donors must weigh at least 110 pounds. Most blood banks have no upper age limit. All donors must pass the physical and health history examinations given before donation. “This selfless act helps us take care of our own, the hallmark of our military tradition,” Wehrle said.

(Courtesy of Air Education and Training Command News Service. Army Spc. Chuck Wagner contributed to this story.)



Boot camp students learn spirit of giving from Brooks, Air Force volunteers

By Rudy Purificato
311th Human Systems Wing

Abused and often neglected San Antonio area youngsters learned during the holidays what the spirit of the season means, thanks to a Brooks caregiver and other Air Force volunteers.

For the second year in a row, students who attend the alternative school called Nehemiah Boot Camp have benefited from the generosity of strangers whose most valuable gift to them is time.

“This is the second year we’ve sponsored them. I really look forward to it,” said Emma Chapa, Brooks Hispanic Employment Program Manager. Chapa and Irene Reyes, president of the San Antonio Area Council of Hispanic Employment Program Managers, were among a handful of ‘elves’ who distributed gift bags to Nehemiah students who attend the alternative school located off Bandera Road.

“I don’t believe they (students) get a lot of attention from anybody,” admits Chapa about the students who were treated to a program Dec. 19 filled with live holiday music, joyful encouragement and prayer.

Principal Henry Bernal founded the school in 1999 after spending eight years as a Harlandale Independent School District social worker. He named the school after the Old Testament prophet Nehemiah. “Nehemiah 4:2 describes rebuilding walls in Jerusalem,” Bernal said, explaining that the school focuses on knocking down the emotional and psychological walls children put up, then rebuilding their confidence, self-esteem and coping skills.

Designed for 6-12 graders, the school’s initial enrollment of three students has since grown to 86. They come from a variety of school districts in Bexar



Photo by Rudy Purificato

Jacob Herrera, a Nehemiah Boot Camp training instructor, distributes gifts to students. Many of the gifts were donated by Air Force volunteers such as Emma Chappa, Brooks Hispanic Employment Program manager.

and Comal counties. Some of them have been expelled from their previous schools, while others are either court-ordered to attend the alternative campus or have been brought there as a last resort by their parents.

All who come to Nehemiah for the prescribed 90 days share one thing in common - they need to be loved.

“Our focus is to help them find a purpose in life. They haven’t found it yet. They find love, security, understanding and structure here,” said Jesse Ibarra, who along with Jacob Herrera are the Boot Camp training instructors. The students are treated with dignity and respect.

“We encourage them spiritually. We teach them anger management and self-control,” Ibarra explains, noting that their future success is dependent upon them allowing change to take root from within.

That change is built upon the kindness and encouragement of others, such as Chapa, who continues to help Nehemiah rebuild the walls of young lives one stone at a time.

68th Information Operations Squadron helps keep “America the Beautiful”

By Airman 1st Class Andrew Harvey
68th Information Operations Squadron

How would you like to spend your afternoon out in the hot sun, picking up trash that thoughtless individuals have recklessly discarded? That’s exactly what several members of the 68th Information Operations Squadron did.

As part of the Adopt-A-Highway program, 68 IOS volunteers spent several hours picking up debris along a two-mile stretch of Highway 181. And this won’t be a one-time good deal-In an agreement with the San Antonio Adopt-A-Highway program, the 68 IOS will perform quarterly clean up of this stretch of highway over the next two years.

Staff Sgt. Juan Arispe, the unit’s program lead, explains how simple the process is.

“I contacted the San Antonio coordinator, who faxed me an application. With the approval of our Commander, Lt. Col. Steven Payson, I filled out the application and submitted it. The coordinators then assisted in picking out a stretch of road relatively close to Brooks. Once we agreed on a site, I received the rules and guidelines established by Adopt-A-Highway. After the contract was signed, they posted road signs labeled ‘68th IOS’ at each end of our site.”

To make the job easier, Adopt-A-Highway supplied all needed materials-trash bags, traffic advisory signs, reflective vests, collection and disposal. By the end of the clean up, the 68th had collected more than 30 bags of trash.

When Arispe was asked how he felt about the success of the initial clean up, he said “During the clean up, we had a lot of grateful folks honking and waving at us as they passed. It certainly made us feel appreciated and made the task worthwhile”.



Harris

**FULL NAME:***Staff Sgt. Regina Gayle Harris***DUTY TITLE, ORGANIZATION:***Military Equal Opportunity technician,
311th Human Systems Wing MEO***WHAT IS MY JOB:***Inform commanders of issues that
may adversely affect member's behavior,
health, duty, performance or the mission.***BIRTHDAY:***June 1, 1968***HOMETOWN:***Las Vegas***FAMILY STATUS:***Married with two sons***NICKNAME I CALL MYSELF:***Gina***MOTTO:***The single most important ingredient
in the formula of success is how to get
along with people.***INSPIRATIONS:***I'm inspired to be a good wife and
mother.***HOBBIES:***Mary Kay beauty consultant
and reading***BOOK(S) AT BEDSIDE:***"Woman thou art loosen!"
by T.D. Jakes***I JOINED THE MILITARY BECAUSE:***I wanted to obtain my degree.***FIVE-YEAR GOAL:***Directorship in Mary Kay***ULTIMATE GOAL:***See my two boys graduate
from college.***IF I WON THE LOTTERY I'D:***Pay bills.***FAVORITE MUSIC:***Gospel***MY GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT:***is my family.***MY MOST PRIZED POSSESSION:***is my family.*

Brooks Personality PROFILE

At some point during a conversation with Staff Sgt. Regina Harris, a person realizes she's likeable. A little later in the conversation, the person realizes the reason why Harris is likeable is hard to pinpoint.

Harris is not bubbly. She doesn't come across as warm. In contrast, she's a perfect example of military bearing. She looks dignified, controlled and alert.

It's when someone begins to speak with her, that Harris reveals her other side. She listens to what a person has to say and she cares about those words. She doesn't interrupt, jump to conclusions or make judgments. She willingly complies with requests that make life easier for others.

"People can tell if you really care about them," Harris said. "I think it's just my nature."

Her qualities make her the perfect candidate for a job in Military Equal Opportunity. Harris worked in logistics when she entered the Air Force, but when too many people shared that AFSC, she cross-trained into MEO and hasn't looked back.

"I think I have the best job in the Air Force," Harris said.

Though working in the MEO office does entail handling complaints, most of Harris's job consists of educating military personnel on policies and equality.

"We have a very low number of complaints," Harris said.

She spends the rest of her time briefing commanders, briefing incoming airmen and talking with Brooks personnel.

"We do 'out-and-about' where we talk to the people in the squadron," Harris said. "We ask (if) they like the quality of life and provide feedback and their suggestionsto unit commanders."

With her training and information from the airmen, Harris briefs commanders on Human Relations issues like stress, peer relations and recognition in the workplace. The goal of MEO is to eliminate unlawful discrimination and sexual harassment against military members, family members and retirees based on race, religion, sex, national origin and color.

"Commanders are very proactive and they are very supportive of MEO programs," Harris said.

Harris also educates incoming airmen about MEO guidelines in the military, helping them to leave behind any prejudices and stereotypes they may have developed prior to life in the service. She also lets them know that if they have a problem or concern, they can return to MEO.

"People come and talk, they often



Photos by Airman First Class Samantha Shieh

A caring handshake

By Rita Boland

Staff writer

have answers to their own questions but need someone to listen." Harris also said that young people are usually willingly to learn and adapt.

"A lot of folks have issues and need someone to talk to," Harris said. "I'm a sounding board. I enjoy educating folks."

Harris puts a strong emphasis on her own education and her desire for a college degree influenced her decision to enter the military.

She joined the Air Force to take advantage of the GI Bill and, at that time, the 75 percent tuition assistance. She will receive her associate degrees from the Community College of the Air Force when she completes only two more classes.

Harris also saw the opportunity to travel as another perk for joining the military. Since her enlistment she has traveled out of country to Morocco and Bahrain.

Two of her brothers served in the military after being drafted.

"I was the only one who volunteered," she said.

However, her nephew followed her example and graduated basic training a few weeks ago and her husband is a Training Instructor at Lackland. "I'm basically a single parent," she said.

Harris has added pressure in her parenting role as her oldest son has autism.

"We moved here to Texas for the

care at Wilford Hall," she said. "They have support groups and a wealth of information on autistic programs here. I don't feel like I'm all alone."

The move to Texas ended up being an excellent decision, since Harris loves living in San Antonio.

"I really like San Antonio, mostly because of the diversity here," she said. "You don't have to beat the bushes for volunteers. I find people here to be very friendly. I like the loops and the cost of living here isn't that expensive."

Harris's coworkers also understand her needs outside of work and strive to help her. "We have a very good office here. They're very flexible," Harris said.

Though her son's disease is difficult it has helped Harris in her personal and military lives.

"It's made me a better person," Harris said. "I'm more assertive."

She may use that assertiveness to find a partner for a goal of hers that not everyone knows she has. "I've always wanted to bungee jump," Harris said. "I'm not just going to do it by myself. I'm too scared."

Between those who confide in her and others she helps, Harris should be able to find someone to take the plunge with her, although it may alter her professional appearance for awhile.

Rita. Boland@brooks.af.mil



Brooks fetes first woman in space

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

She's heard the old joke before about having 'a ticket to Ride' to just about anywhere, especially in recent Office Depot commercials where Sally Ride says, "I'll take the shuttle."

America's first woman in space, however, doesn't mind taking the airport shuttle to places like the Challenger Learning Center at Brooks where youngsters are encouraged to pursue future careers in science and engineering.

The retired NASA astronaut spent a few hours at Brooks in December to thank corporate sponsors and Brooks volunteers who support the on-going series of Sally Ride Science Festivals that have been staged across the country.

The San Antonio festival was held at the University of Texas Health Science Center where about 500 middle school girls learned from Ride and other professional women that they, too, can become successful in science and technology careers.

The Brooks Heritage Foundation hosted Ride's pre-festival reception that included dozens of science festival supporters from Brooks and Challenger Learning Center volunteers.

"I had the idea for the festivals for a couple of years. The first was held about 18 months ago," said Ride, who has since conducted a dozen of them to include the first in San Antonio.

followed by her signings of the book "To Space & Back" that chronicles her historic June 1983 flight aboard the shuttle Discovery.

"There were no (women) role models when I was growing up in Los Angeles in the early 1960s," admits Ride, whose parents, although supportive, were not scientists. A high school science teacher greatly influenced Ride by giving her confidence to pursue her interests.

"I was self-motivated and genuinely interested in and fascinated with math and science," said Ride.

After earning a Ph.D. in theoretical physics from Stanford University in 1978, she entered the astronaut program.

"I was one of six women in an astronaut class of 35," she noted, explaining that becoming the first woman in space wasn't as important to her as fulfilling mission requirements.

"During my launch and flight, I focused on the amazing experiments that were being conducted as opposed to the importance of a woman going into space," she confessed.

The notoriety of becoming the first American woman in space, however, did help her pursue future goals.

After retiring from NASA in 1987, Ride has since become a successful businesswoman who founded Imaginary Lines, Inc. She also serves on the board of directors of Veridian, a major contractor at Brooks City-Base, and the principal corporate



NASA courtesy photo

Sally Ride, the first American woman in space, eats a meal during her historic journey into space in June 1983 aboard the space shuttle Discovery.

Learning Centers have been doing for more than 10 years.

"The underlying idea for the Sally Ride festivals and Challenger Centers is the same. It's to put adventure into math and science for youngsters," said Allen, who is the Challenger Center for Space Science Education chairman as well as Veridian chairman.

Allen, who earned a Ph.D. in experimental physics, has been Ride's friend and associate since 1978. He became an astronaut in 1967, and is a veteran of two shuttle missions.

"We're (Sally and I) both interested in education. Being (former) astronauts gives us a wonderful platform in which to have a positive effect on youngsters," Allen said.

Echoing Allen's feelings about mentoring is festival volunteer, Lt.

Col. Cheryl DiCarlo, a U.S. Army Medical Research Detachment veterinary physician assigned to Brooks.

"I'm really excited about being a festival presenter. I'm also a Challenger Center volunteer," DiCarlo said, adding, "It's my opportunity to give back and get kids excited about it (science and medicine) as a possible career."

Like Ride, a female mentor influenced DiCarlo. "Dr. Linda Cork has been a lifelong mentor to me. She's the reason that I became a veterinarian," DiCarlo said of the veterinary neuropathologist she worked for at Johns Hopkins University.

Rudolph.Purificato@brooks.af.mil



Photo by Rudy Purificato

Sally Ride, center, and retired astronaut Dr. Joseph Allen were among dozens of Challenger Learning Center participants who attended a reception in December. The event was to thank Brooks volunteers who supported the Sally Ride Science Festival.

"I plan to continue putting on festivals to promote math and science in middle schools."

Her focus is to encourage impressionable girls, primarily in grades five through seven, to consider future careers in math, science and engineering.

The festivals feature a street fair format where each participant attends two 40-minute classes that are conducted by women in such fields as microbiology, aerospace engineering, computer science and veterinary medicine.

Ride begins the event with a discussion about her career,

sponsor of Ride's festivals.

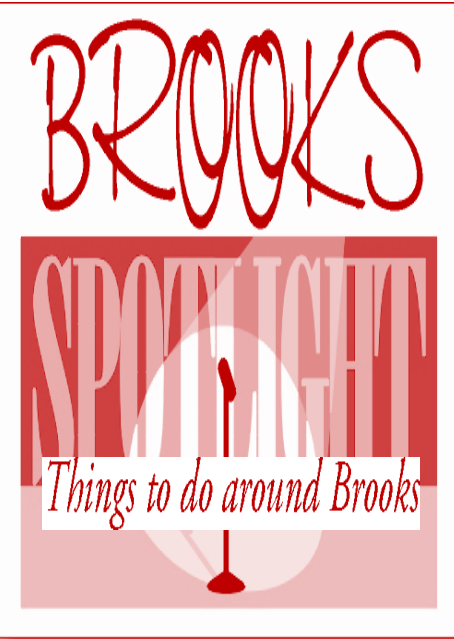
"Any program that helps young people progress is tremendous. A program like this is a national asset," said Jim Jaeger, vice president of Veridian's Cyber Assurance Group Information Solutions Division. Jaeger said our nation's continued success, as the world's leader in science and technology, is dependent upon encouraging the current generation to pursue science and engineering careers.

Ride's festivals, said colleague and retired NASA astronaut Dr. Joseph Allen, provides another educational venue similar to what Challenger



NASA courtesy photo

Sally Ride, with the crew of the Shuttle Discovery, became America's first woman in space in 1983.



By Jan McMahon
Brooks Services Marketing Office
536-5475

Brooks Club

Bldg. 204, 536-3782
Come enjoy an evening of fun and laughter at Comedy Night with the Oxymorons Feb. 14. The social hour begins at 6:30 p.m., a Texas-style barbecue buffet is available at 7 p.m. and the show begins at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$25 per person.
Enjoy a “Night out on the Town” Feb. 15 with live music by Second Nature

and a dinner buffet. This group has proved to be a favorite of guests so don’t miss out on the wonderful sounds of jazz and rhythm and blues. Cost is \$10 for members and \$12.50 for non-members. Reservations are required.
Gourmet Night is scheduled for Feb. 21 from 6 to 9:30. Only the first 40 reservations will be accepted. Call 536-3782 to make reservations.

Superbowl potluck party
Bring your friends and come to Brooks Club 204 for a Superbowl party Jan. 26. Doors open at 4 p.m. The game will be shown on the big screen. The Club will provide heavy hors d’oeuvres but everyone is asked to bring a covered dish of their choice. For more information, call the Club at 536-3782.

Outdoor Recreation

Bldg. 1154, 536-2881
A sealed-bid vehicle auction is scheduled for Mon., Wed., and Fri., Feb. 3-14 from 10-11 a.m. at the RV storage lot. Call Outdoor Recreation for more information. Various vehicles, boats and RVs will be auctioned. Outdoor Recreation has Six Flags Fiesta Texas season passes for sale at a discount price.

Youth Activities Center

Bldg. 470, 536-2515
The Youth Center staff is selling the

2003 Entertainment Book. Purchase several to use as gifts throughout the year. There are discounts to local attractions, hundreds of great restaurants, thousands of hotels and more. Each page is filled with coupons for dining out, informal carry out food, airfare, car rentals, movies, dry cleaning, car washes, merchandise and services. Books are \$20 each and can be purchased through Larry Flores at 536-8130. Books can be delivered to organizations at Brooks.

NAF auction

Bldg. 1154, 536-2881
The Non-Appropriated Funds Store is now open in Bldg. 1154 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Come by and check out the daily savings on numerous items, including chairs, sofas, desks, electronic equipment and more.

Premiere Designs

Bldg. 705, 536-2120
Premiere Designs has moved to a centrally located office. They are now in the same building as the Base Library. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. They no longer do custom framing but offer framing packages. Bring in artwork, certificates and photos for a good deal on packages. Laser engraving is also available. A wide range of shadow boxes, coin holders, doll cases and flag presentations can be personally de-

signed. Don’t forget, Premiere Designs prints business cards.

Child Development Center

Bldg. 502, 536-2736
The Brooks Child Development Center hosts its annual Open House Feb. 19 from 9-11 a.m. Refreshments will follow. Children who attend the Center will have photos taken Feb. 26-27 for a calendar for the parents.

Family Child Care

Bldg. 510, 536-2041
Are you seeking childcare for your children, ages 6 weeks-12 years of age, on a full-time, hourly or part-time basis? Family Child Care may be your solution. The Brooks Family Child Care Affiliated Providers have providers with vacancies. Stop by the office or call Jeanie Smith, Family Child Care coordinator at 536-2041 for details.

Base Library

Bldg. 705, 536-2634
A “Books for Fun” book fair is scheduled for Feb. 19 and 20 from noon to 6 both days. Numerous books and gifts can be purchased at bargain prices. Support reading for education and support the base library. The library is open Monday-Thursday from 8 a.m. to noon and Sundays from 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Call 536-2634 for details.



NEWS briefs

PRK screening

Brooks Optometry Clinic will resume screening patients for Photo-Refractive Keratectomy surgery during Dec. PRK is an elective procedure available for active duty personnel, but not everyone qualifies and there are certain risks involved. More information is available at: <https://www.afms.mil/warfightereyes>. Aviators and special duty operators interested in the procedure should visit https://www.afms.mil/aeromed/USAF_PRK.cfm for information. Call 536-2322 for more information.

Altitude test subjects

Altitude test subjects needed: Help provide F-22 pilots, high altitude parachute personnel, high altitude reconnaissance pilots and astronauts with adequate equipment and procedures to accomplish their missions without distraction or hazard resulting from exposure to altitude. Several research protocols are being conducted at the High Altitude Protection Laboratory at Brooks to accomplish this mission. Hypobaric (altitude) chamber test subjects can earn \$150 per month for participating in at least one session per month. Each subject must meet Air Force body fat or height/weight standards, be a non-smoker for at least two years, be between 18 and 50 years of age, and be able to pass an appropriate physical exam. Contact Heather Alexander at 536-3440 or Jim Carlile at 536-3546 for more information.

Sleep study subjects

The Chronobiology and Sleep Laboratory at Brooks needs volunteers to participate in a number of ongoing sleep research studies. Interested Air Force and civilian personnel who meet the necessary qualifications are eligible to receive compensation starting at \$10 per hour. Contact Laura Sanchez at 536-3616 for additional information, or visit the website at: www.ntiinc.com and link to "studies."

Scholarships

Established in 1992, the Bernard P. Randolph Scholarship Fund supports college-bound seniors or full-time college students in the San Antonio military, civilian, or dependent community.

Independent evaluators will judge 600-800 word essays. Applications are available at Brooks, Lackland Air Force Base, Randolph AFB, and Fort Sam Houston libraries, education offices and family support centers.

Applications and more information may also be downloaded from: www.brooks.af.mil/aaca/brkmlkbh.htm. Applications and essays are due at 1 p.m. Jan. 31. The scholarships range from \$500-\$1,000 and are awarded at the Scholarship Luncheon scheduled for Feb. 27 at the Brooks Club.

For more details contact Master Sgt. Veronica Berry-Jones at 536-8538.

Prayer breakfast

The National Prayer Breakfast is scheduled for 7:30 a.m. Jan. 29 at the Brooks Club. Retired U.S. Navy Chaplain (Capt.) Arnold Resnicoff is the guest speaker. Tickets are available through unit representatives. Contact Chaplain Gary Coburn or Staff Sgt. Steven Aldermann at 536-3824 for more details.

Human centrifuge research subjects

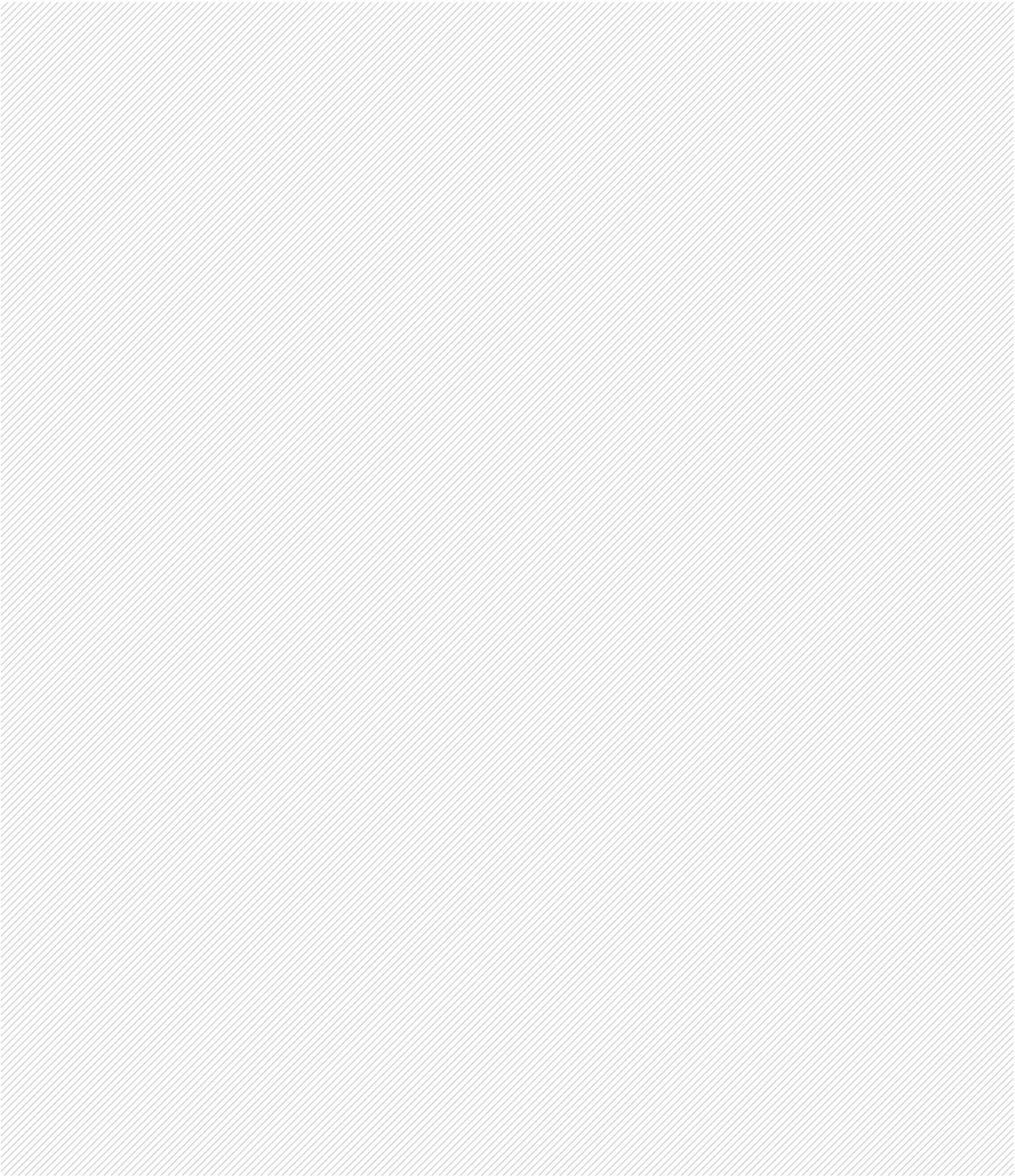
The Air Force Research Laboratory Biodynamics and Protection Division is in need of active duty volunteers between the ages of 18 and 50 years old, able to pass the equivalent of a flying class exam, to participate in several studies, which help in the development of safe life support equipment, protocols and procedures for Air Force aircrew in wartime and peacetime environments. Subjects may earn \$150 hazardous duty pay per month. For more information, contact Suzanne Flores at 536-6258.

Cockpit visual study volunteers needed

The Naval Health Research Center Detachment Laser Department at Brooks needs volunteers for experimental human performance studies in an aviation environment. Volunteers participate for up to six hours, in eight or fewer sessions. Participants perform control tasks while flying simulated sorties in virtual aircraft. We are looking for people with aviation interest and possible actual flight time or experience flying simulators. Volunteers will be contributing to the Brooks science mission. Contact Jeremy Beer at 536-1906 for more information.

Technology expo

The Brooks Technology Expo is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Jan. 29 at Hangar 9. More than 20 exhibitors will display the latest computer hardware, software and services. Featured technologies included desktop and notebook computers audio visual products, presentation broadcast, servers, internet security, knowledge management, data warehousing, network operation services, web/enterprise content management, information assurance, security, mobile computing solutions and more. The event is open to the Brooks community at no cost. Refreshments and free giveaways are available while supplies last. The event is sponsored by the 311th Communications Squadron. For more information contact Tiffany Ratzlaff at (310)- 596-8899 ext. 230, or by email at: ratzlaff@ncsievents.com.





The Brooks Eagles pose for a team photo in the Fall of 2002.

Courtesy photo

Brooks Eagles win first youth football league crown

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

The Brooks Eagles senior youth football team won its first Texas Youth Football League championship in November on the strength of its 8-1 season record and the performance of two rookie running backs.

“Running backs Myron Brew and Dyran Wright had a major impact on the team winning the championship,” said Larry Flores, Brooks Youth sports director. The Brew-Wright offensive tandem provided the Eagles with plenty of scoring options against five other teams in the league.

Coached by Ray Lopez, the 12-13-year-old tackle football squad advanced to the city championships seeded first as league champs.

However, Western Central defeated Brooks by two touchdowns for the city crown at Randolph High School.

Only the top four league teams had advanced to the playoffs, Flores noted.

The Brooks junior football team, composed of 11-year-olds, also made the playoffs. The squad advanced to the city championship tournament after it had finished in a three-way tie for second place in the league with a 4-3 regular season record.

“They were beaten in the first round by Denver Heights,” Flores said, noting that Randolph won the junior level city championship.

The Brooks junior Eagles is the only base youth tackle football team to ever have won a state championship. They were state champs in 1996.

HAWC notes

Are you ready to change your shape, accept a slow gradual weight loss program, keep a daily record of what you eat, increase your physical activity and commit to a weekly weigh in?

Then the Win the Losing Battle weight loss competition is for you. There is no better way to lose weight, learn healthy and nutritious eating habits, increase physical activities and re-define your body into your dream, all while having a great time with family, friends and peers, actively coaching you along while hiking, biking, running, walking and WINNING with you.

“Win the Losing Battle” is a twelve-week weight loss competition which combines competitive fun and lifestyle change. The program includes professional individual dietary counseling, confidential weekly weigh-ins, weekly newsletters, healthy food and dining lectures, team-based effort and goal setting and cool gifts and prizes.

If you are 5 pounds or more over your ideal body weight and do not know exactly where to begin or what to do to achieve your goal, the answer is easy. Get a group of friends or co-workers together and sign your group up for the 2nd annual “Win the Losing Battle” Weight Loss Competition.

The program began Jan. 15. with an orientation briefing from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Health and Wellness Center.

Competition is open to all active duty, dependants, civilians and contractors. Registration is required. Call 536-4292.

Don’t delay, a body is a terrible thing to WAIST!